

### *Need All Hands on Deck for Oil Spill Cleanup*

Washington, D.C. – U.S. Congressman Tom Rooney (R-Fla.) yesterday joined fellow Gulf Coast Representatives to send a letter to the President urging him to waive the Jones Act and allow foreign vessels to assist in the Gulf oil spill cleanup.

“We need all hands on deck to stop the spill and clean up the mess,” Rooney said. “We cannot allow red tape and bureaucratic barriers to stand in the way of those who want to help. President Obama should waive the Jones Act today to improve the speed and efficiency of our oil spill response.”

The Jones Act prohibits foreign vessels from transporting goods between U.S. ports. The President can waive the Jones Act to allow foreign ships to assist with emergency responses. For example, President Bush waived the Jones Act following Hurricane Katrina.

To read the full letter, please [click here](#):